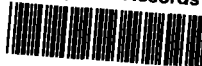




EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



298184

Amoco Petroleum Additives Company

Post Office Box 182
Wood River, Illinois 62095
618-251-2200

H. A. McCandless
Vice President, Manufacturing

February 17, 1984

I.D. 119 115 AAA

Mr. Jeff Benbenek
Division of Air Pollution Control Field Office
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
115A West Main Street
Collinsville, Illinois 62234

Dear Sir:

Amoco Air Excursions, November/December, 1983

The following is a confirmation of past telephone conversations with your office by R. A. Sumner concerning air excursions at the Amoco Petroleum Additives plant in Wood River.

On November 11, 1983 an odor was detected in the northern part of the plant site. The ensuing investigation traced the source to an open bleeder in a vent line at the temporarily inactive Polypropene Unit. The odor came from odorized propane at the LPG Terminal and was pressured through the flare system to the open vent line at the Polypropene Unit. Upon locating the source of emission the vent line was closed to prevent future occurrences. A similar odor was detected on November 8, 1983, but subsided before the source could be confirmed.

On December 16, a safety relief valve on an ammonia tank at the Multi-Purpose Additives Plant opened, resulting in the emission of ammonia vapors. The release occurred when the ammonia vessel overheated and the relief valve opened. The excursion lasted less than five minutes. Improvements in the temperature control of the vessel will prevent future recurrences.

The final air excursion of 1983 occurred from December 18, 1983 to December 31, 1983. The circulating DEA/H₂S Removal System at the Multi-Purpose Additives Plant froze on December 18, 1983 resulting in no removal of H₂S from the vapor stream. The H₂S was then combusted in the flare at a rate of approximately 700 lb/hr for the 14-day period. The system was returned to service on December 31. A permanent solution to the freezing problem will be completed in the summer of 1984 by insulating the DEA circulating lines between Amoco and Shell's Sulfur Recovery Plant.

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FEB 21 1984

115A W. MAIN ST
COLLINSVILLE, ILL.

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It is our goal to meet all air emission standards. However, when problems occur we will continue to cooperate with the Agency to minimize the environmental effects. Please direct questions relating to this letter or air pollution control to Mr. Sumner at 251-2228.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Henry A. McCandless", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Henry A. McCandless

RAS/de